31st July 1952]

SRI K. SURYANARAYANA :—" I wish to submit that the figures provided by the Government do not tally with the actual figures. Therefore, will the Government be pleased to make further enquiries to ascertain the number of ex-tappers still unemployed? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" I cannot admit that it is wrong; it may vary from month to month but if the hon. Member desires, the matter will be further investigated and figures obtained."

SRI K. SURYANARAYANA :—" I still assert that the number of ex-tappers still unemployed is larger. Will the Government, therefore, permit the ex-tappers who are still unemployed to sell neera up to 10 a.m. as is being done in some parts of the State? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" Yes, Sir. As an experimental measure the tapping of neera for consumption will be allowed in certain places where the local officers and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies recommend it and if such sales are found to be popular and there is no scope for abuse, more neera sales will be allowed."

SRI K. SURYANARAYANA :—" In view of the fact that the number of ex-tappers in the Circars districts is heavy, will the Government consider the introduction of the sale of neera in those districts? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" I think, Sir, I have already answered this point."

Minimum rates of wages for the Public Health and other establishments of municipalities.

* 74 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether minimum rates of wages have been fixed under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, in respect of the Public Health staff and the water-supply and drainage establishments under the municipal councils;

(*b*) whether these rates compare favourably with the existing rates of wages for the above categories of municipal servants; and

(*c*) whether the Municipal Councils have introduced the new rates and if so, from what date?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.
Grades I and II—Rs. 25.
Rest—Rs. 40.

" (*b*) The staff under the water-supply and drainage establishment is now getting more pay than the all-inclusive minimum rates of wages fixed under the Minimum Wages Act. In the case of Public Health Establishment, the staff other than the menials are getting more pay than the all-inclusive minimum rates of wages. The pay of menials under the

Public Health Establishment varies from place to place. In cases where the pay of menials is less than the minimum rates of wages now fixed, action is being taken to bring it on a par with the all-inclusive minimum rates of wages. In cases where the pay is more than the minimum rates of wages, it will not be reduced.

"(c) Action is being taken to introduce the new rates in all Municipalities from 31st March 1952."

Working of the Madras Warehouses Act, 1951.

* 75 Q.—SRI S. B. ADITYAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Madras Warehouses Act, 1951, is in force in the State; and

(b) if so, how many warehouses have been licensed and have commenced to function under the Act?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA:—"(a) The Act has not yet come into force in the State pending the issue of rules under the Act.

"(b) Does not arise."

Earthwork of Darsi-Chimakurthi road (Nellore and Guntur districts).

* 76 Q.—SRI S. RAMAKRISHNAIAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) the date of starting the earthwork of Darsi-Chimakurthi road (Nellore and Guntur districts);

(b) whether there has been any delay in completing this work and if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) when the estimate was sanctioned for metalling it between Darsi and Pothakamur;

(d) whether there has been any delay in metalling it and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) when the entire road is likely to be metalled?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—"(a) 15th March 1949 in Guntur district and 30th November 1949 in Nellore district.

"(b) There was no avoidable delay in the execution of the work.

"(c) Only the portion lying in Nellore district is being metalled for a length of 6½ miles. The estimate for metalling mile 0/0 to mile 3 was sanctioned on 26th February 1951 and the estimate for the portion from mile 3 to 6/4 is yet to be sanctioned.

"(d) There was no avoidable delay in the execution of the work.

"(e) The 6½ miles in Nellore district will be metalled by the end of the current year."